



**HYDE PARK HARRIERS AGM 9<sup>th</sup> MAY 2023  
HELD AT THE NEW HEADINGLEY CLUB, LEEDS**

**Present - Committee:**

**Amy Ramsden-Young (Chair)**  
**Lorraine Beavis**  
**Danni Bryant**  
**Danny Clayton**  
**Clare Evans**  
**Laura Garratt**  
**Richard Garratt**  
**Katherine Kirkham**  
**Curtis Ledger**  
**Grace Roberts**  
**Jonathan Spain**

**Members:** See attached list

**Welcome and Introduction**

ARY welcomed everyone to the meeting, noting that a quorum was present.

**1 Minutes of previous AGM**

The minutes of the previous AGM, held on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022, which had been posted as a draft on the Club's website and a copy circulated prior to this meeting, were approved.

**2 President's Report**

KJ gave a brief round-up of the year to date, highlighting both running and non-running achievements of club members.

KJ then thanked all those involved in the running of the club - leaders, coaches and committee members, including those who were standing down following this AGM.

**3 Chair's Report**

AR-Y highlighted the following events held during the year:

- Track day, funded by a grant from England Athletics
- 10K time trial
- A run from Otley Chevin to Woodhouse Moor between two trees planted in memory of Rolf Neugebauer
- Club trip to Munich
- A wide variety of regular sessions
- Awards evening, with the trophies being more sustainable this year
- More members than ever taking part in the London marathon.

**4 Election of Committee Members**

Nomination forms for all those wishing to join or re-join the Committee had been circulated in advance of the meeting for members' consideration.

The following had put themselves forward to serve on the committee for a further term:

- Clare Evans as Membership Secretary – proposed by Lucy Rider, seconded by Kay Jefferies and carried unanimously.
- Katherine Kirkham as Treasurer – proposed by Xenia Perry, seconded by Lizzie Coombes and carried unanimously.
- Curtis Ledger – proposed by Debbie Brown, seconded by Katherine Kirkham and carried unanimously.

Danni Bryant was standing down as an ordinary member and Xenia Perry had submitted a nomination to re-join the committee as an ordinary member. ARY thanked DB for her contribution to the Committee. The appointment of Xenia Perry as an ordinary member was proposed by KK seconded by LB and carried unanimously.

Lorraine Beavis was standing down as Club Secretary and Toby Adkins had submitted a nomination to stand as Club Secretary. ARY thanked LB for her contribution during her two terms on the committee. The appointment of Toby Adkins as Club Secretary was proposed by LB, seconded by Debbie Brown and carried unanimously.

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#### **Treasurer's Report**

The Balance Sheet at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 and Income & Expenditure Statement covering the years from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 had been circulated to members prior to the meeting and KK reported on key points as follows:

- The balance at the end of 2021/22 was just under £5,500 and for 2022/23 just over £2,000. The balance for 2021/22 reflected the grant received from EA and that for 2022/23 did not take account of money received from PECO on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.
- The greatest expenditure items included in the Income and Expenditure Statement related to training courses and to kit held in stock awaiting sale.
- Membership fees were increasing by £1 this year due to increase in EA fees – the amount received by the club remains the same.
- Money received from race organisers for volunteers was worthwhile so volunteers were always welcome.

ARY mentioned that the decision to invest in coach training was a strategic one, so that coaches could train new leaders, saving the club money on LiRF training.

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#### **Membership Report**

CE reported that membership numbers currently stood at 233 which was the highest number ever at the date of an AGM. The gender split was 43% female and 57% male, with a good range of ages and a number of people remaining members even after moving away from the area.

For the first time this year, the membership had grown to a number to qualify for three club places in the London Marathon. This year London Marathon have said that ballot

results would be notified by the end of June; the timing of the club ballot was yet to be decided.

## **7 Updates from subcommittees & workflows**

### Sessions

JS highlighted key points as follows:

- Last year had seen the greatest number of people running in sessions since 2019.
- It had often been difficult get run leaders, especially for groups 1-3, and groups 4 and 5 were often over-subscribed meaning more leaders were needed so that additional groups could be set up.
- The recently introduced short laps session were aimed at all levels of runner and not just those who normally ran in group 1. They had been well received by those who attended but would be discontinued if there was insufficient interest going forward.
- Thursday sessions had been changed to Kirkstall Hills in the winter and intervals in the summer, with intervals taking place alternately at Woodhouse Moor and Beckett Park track.
- Sunday long runs had been popular although, again, leaders were required. If no leader had come forward by the time invites were ready to go out, the session would not go ahead.
- Leaders continued to support the North Running Club for sessions, typically held on the last Sunday of the month.
- The Summer Mile had been very successful last year and would be held again in June this year. Sponsors would be the same as previous years, plus OTE. Meanwood Valley Urban Farm was again the chosen charity and £1 from each entry fee would be donated. This year there would be an option not to take a medal and there would be no junior race or race walk race. The sub-committee was hoping to obtain permission from the council to have food vans in the park. An appeal was made for volunteers to join the organising committee, plus those to help on the day and to distribute flyers at events prior to race day.

### Leaders and Coaching Committee

AR-Y advised that there were 120 people on the leaders' Facebook page and last year saw 69 leaders, not including back-markers. Two leaders' evenings were to be arranged in June, one for existing leaders and one for those interested in leading in the future.

Alternatives to Spond had been investigated but Spond was still considered the best for the Club's needs.

An incentive for leaders was being considered – for example possibly making one of the London Marathon places available to leaders only.

Monthly progression sessions had been introduced during the year. Although these has been very successful, it had resulted in fewer people joining Run & Talk, which was

currently held on the same date. Consideration was therefore being given to moving Run & Talk to a different week.

It was understood that some people had been discouraged from leading because of having to speak on the steps before Tuesday runs. This would be discussed at the next leaders' meeting to try and find a resolution.

Coaching Committee – the coaches had devised various plans and it was hoped to get specific plans in place, in particular a 5K plan leading up to the track day planned for 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

#### Run & Talk

LR explained that run & talk was a run that was not primarily about running but to provide a safe space for people to talk about anything whilst enjoying a run together. All that was needed to lead a run & talk session was some experience of mental health support. Because of people previously involved in run & talk moving on, LR was now the only leader for these sessions so additional leaders would be very welcome and anyone interested should contact LR.

#### Club Trips

A decision had been made to have an overseas trip only on alternate years but trips for this year were being organised to Antrim, Scotland and Wales.

#### Social

This sub-committee had organised the Christmas Party and the Awards evening and suggestions were welcome for other events. More volunteers to join the social sub-committee would be very welcome and suggestions for reasonably priced venues would also be appreciated.

It was stressed that ad hoc social events could be organised by anyone and thanks were given to anyone who had organised any events during the year.

#### Volunteering

CL advised that the key events currently needing volunteers were the Summer Mile and the VoY Half Marathon and 10K. The latter was important because Racebest provided timing for the Summer Mile at a discount, in exchange for us providing at least ten volunteers.

For the Leeds Marathon, 22 people had volunteered to man one of the drinks stations and because we were providing more than 15 volunteers, the club would receive a contribution from Run for All.

It was intended to arrange two parkrun takeovers per year.

The hosting of a PECO race was also financially beneficial for the club and those who had organised this year's volunteers had done a great job.

#### Welfare

CL explained the EA requirement for each club to name two welfare officers, one of whom must be designated as the lead welfare officer. He advised that HPH had set up a specific separate email address, only accessible by him as lead welfare officer. The other welfare officer was Clare Evans and both CE and CL had attended the EA safeguarding courses.

#### Vets

The definition of a vet was anyone over the 35. Jason Newell was the club vet rep and anyone who fell into this category was encouraged to enter the various vets races.

The championship races for this year were included in the round up.

The points system had been changed slightly, with points awarded for doing five of the ten races, rather than six.

ARY advised that Dan Donnelly had done some work on the age-grading system and the committee was looking into how this could be applied to all races to make them more inclusive, although there would be no changes for the current year.

Going forward, a shield would be awarded to winners of the parkrun championship; this would be backdated for the last few years.

No marathon/ultra championship was planned for this due to insufficient interest.

Members were reminded that, in order to be included in the championship figures, they should name HPH as their club when entering.

## 9 **Triathlon Update**

John Pratt gave an update on the Triathlon section, with 2022/23 highlights being as follows:

- Leeds ITU held in Roundhay.
- Ally Fellows taking third in Yorkshire.
- At the Ilkley Tri in September the club took first, second and third place.
- Places in the GB age group team including first male.
- A good coaching team, with three new level 1 coaches and one level 2.
- Sessions attendance included Monday evening social bike ride, meeting at the Hyde Park Book Club. All sessions were very inclusive.
- A SWIFT competition was held over the winter, helping to maintain training during the winter period.
- Membership had grown since last year, as reported by Dan Donnelly as membership secretary.
- Both members and non-members were welcome to attend sessions

## 10 **Strategy**

Following members' responses to a survey circulated by the Committee, ARY outlined the planned strategy:

### **Short term: 6 months**

Inclusive (speed, diversity)

- Open to all - socials, sessions and comms to reflect this (respond to feedback)
- Ensuring people know what they're capable of - coaching, plans, sessions, ability to step up regularly
- Training plans / coaching across distances to compliment intervals summer
- Track sessions / interval focus to work on speed
- Fell/XC taster sessions to open up different running types
- Accessible in cost and location (hold on EA fee increase again this year)
- Strengthen Community links: parkrun, North Running
- Inclusion of injured members - first Tuesday socials / bring back Group 0
- Focus on group 1 pace and leaders needed
- Run and talk regular first Tuesdays followed by a social
- Coaches - reignite current club coaches to assist with training plans
- Captains - across all areas not just PECO
- Increase number of leaders, especially for Group 1

- 2023/2024 race calendar to include all distances and age cats
- Welcoming new members, keeping in touch with older ones (roundup etc.)
- Welfare officers and support in place

#### Committee

- Create pipeline of new committee members
- Introduce Captain and Coach roles to Committee in 2024
- Shadow Officer roles in case of handover / role movement
- Comms & social media roles to ensure consistency across website/emails/platforms

#### Tri Club links

- Tri club members who aren't members of run club – ensure invited to run sessions
- Tri / run club leaders and coaches - communication across groups
- Attendance at meetings across both committees

### **Medium term**

#### Coaching / Training

- Continue to build intervals plan over summer
- Winter Thursday sessions to be monitored
- Day of the 5000m PBs to be repeated/regular calendar event
- Grants / fund coaching for members
- More leaders to be funded
- Regular leader's groups
- Informal training sessions for new leaders
- Captains (gender/age specific if deemed necessary)
- Track use over the dark winter evenings - funded if possible
- Established regular Couch to 5km

#### Championships

- Look at ways of making club champs more inclusive/competitive
- Include more age graded champs / fewer races to count

#### Events

- Another race in the HPH calendar
- 2 trips per year, 1 in UK and 1 abroad
- Bigger Awards and Christmas Dos
- Established social committee

#### Community Partnerships

- North Brewing
- parkrun regular takeovers
- Explore further partnerships to expand diversity of the club

#### Committee Roles

- New chair 2024
- Embed new roles

#### Long term (defined as 4-5 years)

#### Junior Section?

- Explore feasibility / alignment with club values/ethos
- Clubhouse / Meeting location?
- Current committee (May 2023) agreed that this is not a current focus due to the Edge being accessible, free, city centre and works for us. Situation may change in the coming years, and location is certainly a consideration for a Junior section.

Coaches

- Allow new coaching committee roles to embed, then focus on training plans, targeted races etc.

Captains

- Allow new development committee roles to embed, then focus on training plan

Races

- Club organised races

#### **11 Update on England Athletics Club Standards**

LB advised that, as anticipated last year, the Club Safeguarding Code of Conduct had been introduced during the year by way of a link the membership renewal form. A copy of the document could also be found on England Athletics 'club hub' and on the Club's website.

All other documents required by the Club Standards could be found under 'Club Documents' on the HPH website and it was confirmed that the Club was now fully compliant with the EA Club Standards.

#### **12 Constitution amends**

ARY proposed the following amendment to the Club's constitution:

*'14.2 The Officers of the Club shall be the Chair, the Treasurer, Secretary, the Membership Secretary, the Training and Development Lead Coach and the Social Media & Communications Lead, who shall be nominated in accordance with the procedure entitled "Election of Committee" set out below and elected by the Members at the Annual General Meeting.'*

This would enable the appointment of two additional roles to the Committee – Training & Development Lead Coach and Social Media & Communications. It was not proposed to appoint these roles immediately but gave the Committee the ability to do so during the course of the year and bring back to next year's AGM for approval in accordance with the usual procedure.

The amendment was approved.

#### **13 Any Other Business**

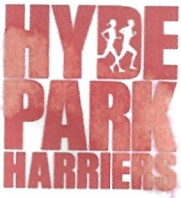
ARY understood that the Fire Fighters' Five may not go ahead this year and asked members to let the Committee know of any other 5-mile races that might replace it in the club championships.

DB advised that fewer people were signing up for relays than in previous years. She mentioned the following relays in particular:

- Calderdale Way – more entrants needed.
- Golden Acre – entries due to open soon.
- Bradford Millennium Way – the club had entered two years ago and would enter again if there was sufficient interest.
- Leeds Country Way – entries open.

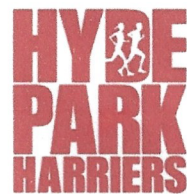
There being no further business, the meeting closed.

**AGM SIGN IN SHEET**  
**9<sup>th</sup> May 2023**



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